

**CHARTER COMMISSION  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**CHARTER COMMISSION TO VOTE ON 25 PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS  
ON GOVERNMENT ETHICS, CITY BUDGET, AND NEW AGENCIES**

HONOLULU, HAWAII, January 5, 2006

The 2005-2006 Honolulu City Charter Commission will consider 25 proposed charter amendments on Tuesday, January 10, 2006 at 2:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers (third floor of Honolulu Hale). The Commission will hear testimony, discuss, and vote on proposals regarding ethics, the budget process, and new agencies/programs (see list of proposals below).

The public is encouraged to attend Charter Commission meetings and provide written and/or oral testimony. Copies of all proposals are available for viewing at Commission office at 711 Kapiolani Boulevard Suite 1485 or the Municipal Library at 558 S. King Street. PDF files of the proposals are also posted on the Commission website, <http://www.honolulu.gov/chc>.

The Commission has already passed a number of proposals on to the next stage of the process. On December 13, 2005, the Commission voted to pass 16 proposals regarding city department

descriptions and the city's planning and zoning process. Voting results are available on the Commission website, <http://www.honolulu.gov/chc>.

Following this first round of voting, proposals will be discussed at islandwide public hearings in March 2006. Ultimately, the selected proposed charter amendments will be placed on the 2006 General Election ballot for voters' approval.

The Charter Commission is a 13-member appointed body responsible for revising the city charter, the governing document for the City & County of Honolulu. The convening of a Charter Commission provides a rare and important opportunity for major changes to city government.

For more information, visit the Charter Commission website at <http://www.honolulu.gov/chc> or contact the Commission staff at 592-8622 or [charter@honolulu.gov](mailto:charter@honolulu.gov).

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## **PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS**

For discussion and voting by the Charter Commission  
on Tuesday, January 10, 2006 at 2:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers

### **RELATING TO ETHICS**

**PROPOSAL 3** - Ethics Commission; Allow the Ethics Commission to fine violators of the ethics code.

**PROPOSAL 18** - Ethics Commission; Give the Commission enforcement powers in the way of fines or other punishments.

**PROPOSAL 28** - Ethics Commission; Allow the Ethics Commission to impose civil fines.

**PROPOSAL 29** - Ethics Commission; Clarify the independence of the Ethics Commission.

**PROPOSAL 30** - Ethics, Charter Commission, Reapportionment Commission; Include the members of the Charter and Reapportionment Commissions as city officers for purposes of the ethics laws.

**PROPOSAL 31** - Impeachment; Provisions re impeachment of elected officials are invalid; options to correct the charter.

**PROPOSAL 41** - Standards of Conduct; Codify within the charter existing state law and provide uniform standards of conduct within all city entities.

**PROPOSAL 44** - Standards of Conduct; Codify within the charter existing state law and provide uniform standards of conduct within all city entities.

**PROPOSAL 68** - Boards and Commissions; Revise provisions regarding conflict of interest for members of boards and commissions

**PROPOSAL 88** - Ethics Commission; Change Ethics Commission member selection process and allow Commission to set executive director salary

## **RELATING TO BUDGET AND TAXES**

**PROPOSAL 2** - Property Assessments; Assessed property values to be capped.

**PROPOSAL 23** - Budget; Revise section regarding "Preparation and Submission of the Program and Annual Budget for Executive Branch" to ensure adequate resources for CIP budget.

**PROPOSAL 34** - Budget; Administration and enforcement of the executive capital budget ordinance -- lapse in 12 rather than 6 months.

**PROPOSAL 52** - Budget; Require that the Mayor sign a budget bill before exercising line-item veto authority.

**PROPOSAL 73** - Department of Budget and Fiscal Services; Require the director to prepare an annual report of long-term obligations of the city.

**PROPOSAL 82** - Budget; Change the fiscal year of the city from the period of July 1 to June 30 to the period of October 1 to September 30.

## **RELATING TO NEW AGENCIES/PROGRAMS**

**PROPOSAL 4** - Department of Community Services; Establish an Advisory Commission on Community Services and Housing.

**PROPOSAL 46** - Genetically Modified Organisms; Protect the county's agriculture, environment, economy and private property from genetically modified organisms.

**PROPOSAL 57** - Transportation; Establish a new, temporary agency in the city to develop the new public transportation system to be funded by the tax surcharge.

**PROPOSAL 66** - Transportation; Create a transit authority or board to build a rail system.

**PROPOSAL 91** - Property Taxes and New Fund; Set aside one-half percent (1/2%) of real property tax revenues for land and natural resources protection and one-half percent (1/2%) of real property tax revenues for affordable housing.

**PROPOSAL 92** - Department of Strategic Initiatives; Establish a new Department of Strategic Initiatives.

**PROPOSAL 93** - Youth Commission; Establish a new Youth Commission.

**PROPOSAL 96** - Environmental Bill of Rights; Add new article with an "environmental bill of rights" for current and future residents.

**PROPOSAL 97** - Commission on the Environment; Establish a new Commission on the Environment.

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